

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-30 (Canceled)

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Claim 31 (Currently Amended) A method for the ex vivo or-activation of NK-cells, comprising: contacting NK cells in a physiological suspension with an isolated Hsp70 protein of SEQ ID NO: 1 or an isolated an isolated C-terminal fragment of Hsp70, wherein said fragment is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 384-641 of SEQ ID NO: 1, derivatives thereof, an isolated polypeptide having 70% or greater homology to amino acids 384-641 of SEQ ID NO: 1 and derivatives thereof, wherein said isolated protein, fragment, polypeptide and derivatives thereof induce an under conditions which comprise stimulation of immune response by NK cells, and further said response increases cytolytic activity of the NK cells or stimulates proliferation of the NK cells.

Claims 32-36 (Original)

Claim 37 (Currently Amended) The method of any one of claims 31-36, wherein said contacting is carried out for at least 3 hours.

Claims 38-43 (Original)

Claim 44 (Canceled)

Claim 45 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44-42, wherein said administration further comprises addition of a cytokine.

Claims 46-56 (Original)

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Claim 57 (Canceled)

Claim 58 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~56~~ 55, wherein
said administration further comprises addition of a cytokine.

Claims 59-60 (Original)